

A Horrible Cruel and bloody Murther,
Committed at Putney in Surrey on the 21. of
Aprill last, 1614, being thursday, upon the body
of Edward Hall a Miller of the same parish,
Done by the hands of Iohn Selling, Peeter Pet and Edward Streater,
his servants to the said Hall, each of them giuing
him a deadly blow (as he lay sleeping)
with a Pickax.

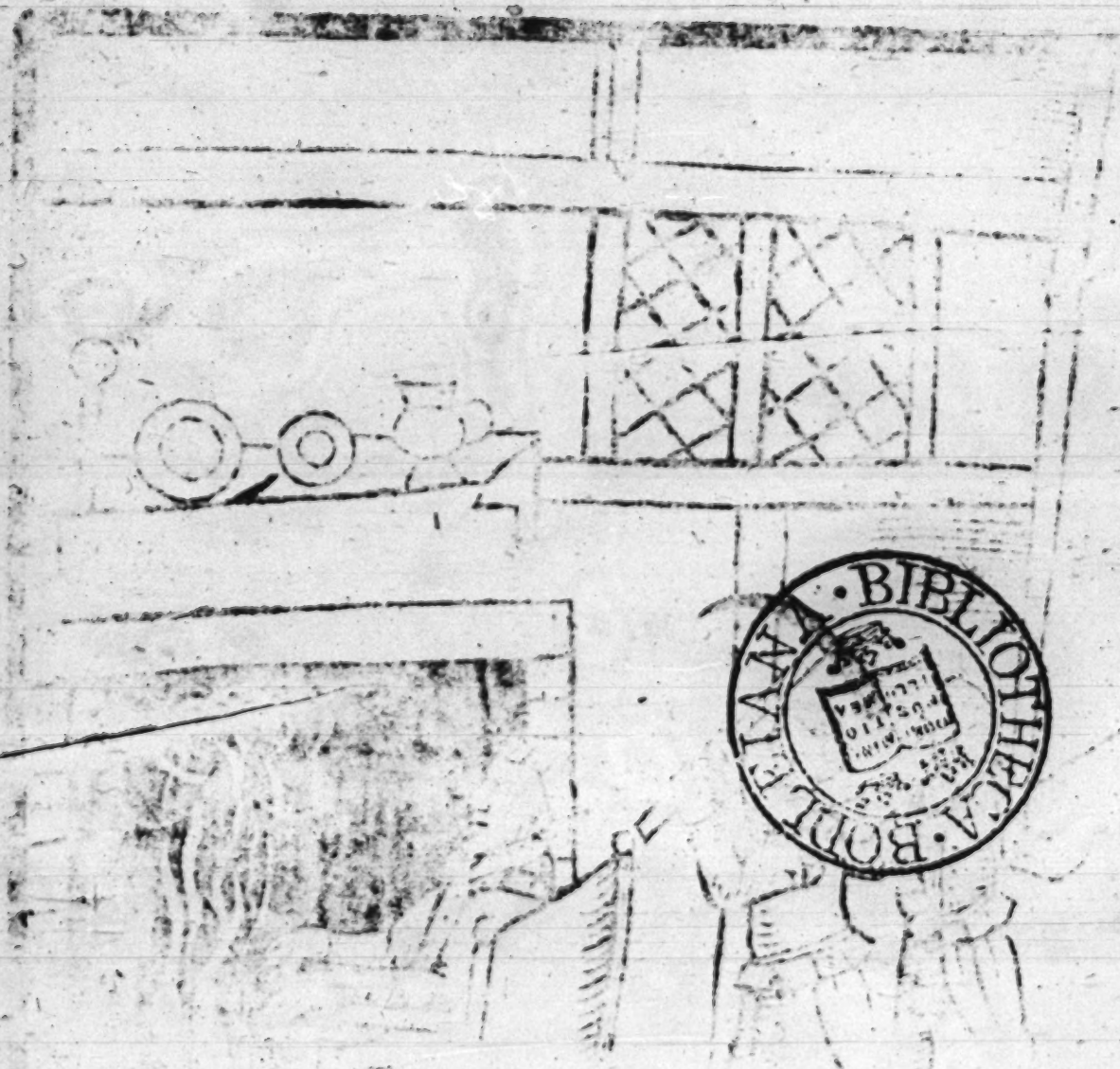
Published by Authority.



Imprinted at London for Iohn Wright, and are to be sold without Newgate
at the signe of the Bible. 1614.

A Horrible Cruel and bloody
 committed at Rome in the year of
 1611, 10 of King James, up in the
 of Edward Hall a M. A. of the University
 of Cambridge, who was a student
 of the said University, and was
 a member of the said University.
 and was a member of the said University.
 and was a member of the said University.
 and was a member of the said University.

Printed by J. Smith.





To the Reader.

READER I do heere present vnto thy view one of the most horrible inhumane and bloody murthers that hath euer beene committed; which as it was damnably deuised so it was deuilishly and butcherly accomplished and executed, whereby thou, and all the world may perceiue in what a miserable estate the times are wherein we liue, when the thirst and luer of a little cankered coyne, (with the inticements of the Deuil) shall haue such predominance ouer the faculties of the minds of wretched men, that they will not stick to runne into most desperate and dangerous actions, to the hazarding of soule and body; and to the finall temporall detriment of those (their parents or masters) whome they are in duty bound to loue, honour and reuerence then let this discourse bee vnto thee as an Epitomy or breife abstract (to thee) of the miseries of man, and the illusions of Sathan; in reading of which if thou hast a remorse or feeling of the want of grace in men, then pray to him that is the giuer of grace, that hee may be graciously pleased to make the vngracious world more gracious.

Farmel, I. T.



John R. Anderson

[illegible]



A HORRIBLE CRUEL AND

bloody Murther, com-

mitted at *Putney* in *Surrey*, on

the one and twentieth of

Aprill last 1614.



ITS old impotent beere,
pit age wherein wee live,
the doating World lim-
ping on his last legges,
whereas impieties, blas-
phemies, iniquities, vil-
lanies, and thousandes
more of hell-hatched enor-
mities have gotten the up-
per hand, where the flower
forming baytes of Sathan leades men (like beares
by the noses) to commit all horrid and damnable
trespases

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trespasses, and transgressions against the Deuthe
Majesty of the omnipotent and eternall God. By
which abominations the wrath of the most high
is oftentimes justly kindled against miserable mis-
gouverned mankind. So that God in his iustice
gives many over to a reprobate sence, that they
have no remorse or feeling of the breach or viola-
ting of the sacred lawes of their immortall Crea-
tor, and so (woe worth the while) As they live
dissolutely, they dye desperately, and after all (that
which is worst) they live a dying life eternally,
or dye a living death everlastingly. What num-
bers of execrable and inhumane murders are dail-
ly committed by barbarons, and brutish minded
men, on the bodies of their brethren, that Caine
who was the first of that bloody fraternitie, if hee
were on the earth would blush to heare and see
how farre he is out passed in butcheries? Amongst
the number of numberlesse blood-thirsty parricides
and homicides: let this, which is here following
treated of, bee accounted and Recorded for none of
the least, which was effected, accomplished, and
revealed in this sort. In the Parish of Putney
upon Thames in the Countie of Surrey, five or
six miles distant from the Cittie of London, there
dwelt this Murdered Man, named Edward Hall,
by his vocation a Miller, a man of good reputa-
on, having substance of money and moveables suf-
ficient: now this aforesaid Hall (notwithstanding
his sufficiency of all things needefull, yet his natu-
rall inclination was to bee sparing, and in a man-
ner miserable in his house-keeping, which procu-
red him the hatred of his servants and familie;
and

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and in conclusion had a great deal of time
belonging to him; he was very much
long before he could get away from the
time of his confinement; he was very much
charged of his friends; he was very much
winded into the streets by his friends; he
was very much in the street; he was very much
choreally; he was very much in the street;
red; for upon Saturday night the sixteenth
tieth of April last 1694. about three of the clock
after supper, the said Hall sleeping in a bed by
the fire in his kitchen, his servants (being three
of them) namely John Selling, Peter Pett, and
Edward Streater, having (as they conceived) consi-
red their Master his death long before, were they
perceived him sleeping, thought it would be to
let such an opportunity slip to put their wicked
practise in execution. John Selling having procured
a pickaxe to give the fatal blow, told the a-
foresaid Pett that now it was a fine time to use
it, and bade Pett strike the first stroke; and he
would secure him with another: whereupon Pett
tooke the pickaxe, and standing beside his sleep-
ing Master, lifting it up with all his force (be-
ing strengthened by the inspiration of the Devil,
who was a Spurrierer from the beginning) gave
his Master a violent blow on the back between his
shoulders, wherewith Hall being astonished fell
downe and gave a great groane, where Selling
presently caught the pickaxe out of Petts handes
strake the second blow at Hall, and hitting him
on the head, in most cruell and bloody manner;

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beate out his braynes, the other (their third com-
panion in this mischiefe) named Sreater, being all
this while grinning come in his Maisters Mill, a
little distant from the house, not knowing as then
that the devilish designe was accomplished, till at
last Pett went to him and told him what was done,
and bade him come and beholde their handy worke:
presently upon this Sreater left the Mill, and com-
ming unto the house where hee saw his said Mai-
ster lye imbrued in his owne gore, with his braynes
most brutishly dashed out. Hee upon the instant, and
unpoximate request or command of Pett & Selling, the
said Sreater tooke the pickaxe and strooke the said
Hall a blow on the breast which split and shivered
his breast bone, Hall being thus dead, these three
Murderers consulted amongst themselves what
were best to bee done with the dead body, prote-
cting and swearing that whosoever should reveale
this their damnable deede, should have his braynes
beaten out. When they all tooke up the dead carcas
and caried it into a stable, where they digged a
hole and buried it. And afterwards devising what
were the best course for them to take to keepe this
murder concealed, and to keepe themselves cleare
from suspicion thereof, at last they bethought them-
selves of a gelding which was their Maisters (at that
time standing in the stable) which gelding they (all
thre) took and saddled and bridled, and led him
forth the same night into Wimbeldon wood where
they turned the horse astray, loosly to wander up and
downe, that it might be thought that Thieves and
robbers had stollen their aforesaid Maister in the
wood

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wood, so that some mischance had there befallen him, of the which (as they imagined) the finding of the body would be a manifest infallible token; but (as I said before) these villains having thus turned the horse loose, returned home to their Masters house, where they searched, sought, and ransacked for money, and at last they found the summe of betwixt thirtie and forty pounds, which was the accused wages and pillage which these Murderers got for their inhumane and horrible execution of the death of their Master, which by the iust iudgement of God they enjoyed not long, for notwithstanding that they had time to provide for their safety, from the Thursday night (wherein they did this murder) yet they remained there till Thursday following, till it pleased the Lord that this bloudie fact was revealed, which fell out in this sort following. Hall was missed amongst his neighbours, and it was given out, and reported by his servants aforesaid, that hee was gone a farre journey into the Countrey, but Edward Streeter beeing further examined, upon his examination confessed unto the Officers and chiefe men of the Parish of Putney abovesaid, the whole order and manner of their devising, complotting, attempting, proceeding, and executing, of this their wilfull cruell and bloudy Murder, which God in his iustice will neuer suffer to be hid or escape unpunished, then John Selling upon this went into the cuntry to his Mistres, and told her that he had found his Masters house in the wood nere Wimbleton aforesaid: but the other two, Pet and Streeter, were brought before

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Sir Thomas Gardner Knight and one of his Maiesties iudice of peace and quorum in the County of Surrey, by whom they were examined, and there confessed that they had done this cruell fact to their Master, because (as they said) he did not loue his wife so well as he ought to doe, and because he did not allow them meat enough, but that which I thinke most is to be beleued from them is, when they did affirme they did it by the inspiration and instigation of the Diuell. When were these mallefactors committed to the common tayle of the white Lyon in Holbithwark, where till the sessions they are to abide, then to haue the recompence of their demerits.

Thus haue I truly and faithfully set downe the true discourse of al this horrible murder, with the manner of the takings and attaching of the murderers, wherein the blind world may perceiue to what a miserable estate it is brought, when as a man (for the value of so small a sum) shalbe thus massacred and murdered by his owne seruants, whome hee best should trust. It is reported that Pompey (being a Heathen) whose valiant deeds had purchased him the name of great, Iulius Caesar, Marke Anthony and hee contending for the Empire and domination of the whole world. Where many bloudy battels was fought betwene them; yet at last there was a truce agreed vpon for a certaine time, in the which truce these three mighty commanders did feast and were merry together diuers times, and being once invited to sup aboard of Pompeies Galley, as they were sate, one of Pompeies seruants whispered him in the eare, and asked him if hee would bee Master of the whole world

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world, Pompey told him yes, if he knew how, then
said his servant a yaine, let vs cut Cæsar and Antho-
nies throates, and then all the world is thine. Pompey
made answer, thou shouldst (quoth he) haue done it
without my knowledge, but now it shall not be don, for
in me it is villany, but in thee it haue bin good seruice.
Thus this heathen man may bee a patterne to all
Christians, that by his example they should abhor
and detest murther. for Pompey would not basely take
away the liues of his two mighty mortall and onely
enemies, although he knew the doing of it would haue
gained him the Monarky of the whole world. What
brutish beasts are these then, that for trifles and a
little cursed coyne will murder their friends? God
himselfe saies that blood shall haue blood, and who-
soever sheddeth mans blood, by man shall his blood
be shed, yet notwithstanding how many horrible and
execrable cruelties are committed daily by man, on
man, that one diuell will not deale so diuinely with
another as men will doe with men. What numbers
haue bene desperately stabd for taking the wall, of
these Roaring hypes of the damned cruelties (as they are
fittly termed) how many haue bin kild for refusing
to drinke their friends, mistris, or some-times their
whores healths? The numbers are numberles, and
therefore I will let them alone vnnumbered. The
God of mercy and peace, indue the hearts of men with
feare of thy great and glorious name, with loue and
brotherly affection one toward another, that they may
all with one minde in vniety worship thee that art
their good and merciful creator, preseruer & defender:
Through Iesus Christ thy sonne our alone and onely

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Reverend and Beloved, to whom, with the and the
holy and blessed spirit be ascribed and rendered
all honor, glory, might, majesty, dominion
and thanksgiving of men and An-
gels both now and for
ever more. Amen.

(.)

FINIS.

